

147TH RECONNAISSANCE WING THE TEXAN



TEXAS AIR NATIONAL GUARD | ELLINGTON FIELD JRB | HOUSTON, TX

APRIL 2013 | VOL 5 | ISSUE 4

*272nd gets dirty building
communication lines in
Afghanistan*



Commander's Comments



Col. John B. Daniel
Commander 147RW

Are we mission ready? We will find out during the Phase I Operational Readiness Exercise (ORE) that takes place April 4-7, 2013. The purpose of this exercise is to ensure the 147th RW Airmen are always ready to answer our nation's call to deploy. Each and every Airman of the Wing is vitally important to this mission. We must fly, fight and win America's current conflicts while preparing for the next crisis.

There are several members who are new to the Wing or to working the "Deployment Machine" and this will be their first exercise. Our goal is to train new unit members on the successful completion of an exercise and prepare for future inspections. This exercise will give more seasoned Airmen the opportunity to advise new members on the correct procedures involved with this type of exercise. Our goal is to execute, evaluate and educate safely.

An ORE allows the Wing to assess the unit's capability to generate people, equipment and aircraft for deployment. This helps leadership see where the Wing stands in terms of readiness and gives us an oppor-

tunity to identify areas that need improvement. A Phase I can be divided into five areas: command and control, deployment processing, employment readiness, information operations and force protection. During this ORE, we will evaluate the Wing on the ability to rapidly and accurately process Airmen in a simulated deployment. There will be a crisis action team made up of wing leadership; a deployment control center where command and control functions are performed; and the Personnel Deployment Functions (PDF) and Cargo Deployment Functions (CDF). Personnel will complete all required processing – medical, legal, airman and family readiness, chaplain – as if actually deploying. It is imperative that all personnel are current with required training and have the proper equipment and paperwork to deploy.

Throughout this exercise, I encourage you to apply a real-world mindset. Our goal is to safely and successfully exercise our deployment machine. Thank you for all your hard work.



Congratulations to the **147th Command Post** for winning the 2012 Air National Guard Small Unit Command Post of the Year award and to **Tech. Sgt. Bennie Bellvin** for winning the 2012 Air National Guard Post NCO of the Year!

^{147 RECONNAISSANCE WING} THE TEXAN

Col. John Daniel
Wing Commander

Col. Terence Winkler
Vice Wing Commander

Lt. Col. Shaunte Cooper
Executive Officer

2nd Lt. Alicia Lacy
Public Affairs Officer

Master Sgt. Sean Cowher
Public Affairs NCOIC

Staff Sgt. David Porcelle
Photojournalist

Staff Sgt. Mindy Bloem
Broadcast Journalist

Airman 1st Class Chasity Lollis
Photojournalist

Contributing Writers

Senior Master Sgt. Andrea Lymas
147 LRS/LGRM

Master Sgt. Malvin Baerga-Rivera
147 RW/MSG

www.147rw.ang.af.mil
147RW.PublicAffairs@ang.af.mil

This funded Air Force publication is produced for members of the 147th Reconnaissance Wing at Ellington Field. Contents of The Texan are not necessarily the official views of the U.S. Government, The Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force. The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office and members of the 147th Reconnaissance Wing, Ellington Field JRB, 14657 Sneider St., Houston, TX 77034-5586

Cover:
Senior Airman Shawna Fowler, 272nd Engineering and Installation Squadron journeyman, supervises a trench excavation at Camp John Pratt, Afghanistan, Jan. 31, 2013. Fowler, a Houston, Texas, native, is part of a team tasked to lay the entire fiber optic cable infrastructure connecting Camp Marmal to Camp John Pratt. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Chris Willis)

Deployed Airmen ‘digg’ it



Maj. Ari Jimenez, 272nd Engineering and Installation Squadron officer in charge, utilizes an engineer measuring wheel to survey the land at Camp John Pratt, Afghanistan, Jan. 31, 2013. The 272nd EIS are tasked with constructing the communications infrastructure used by thousands of servicemembers and military contractors at the camps located near the city of Mazar-e-Sharif. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Chris Willis)

by Senior Airman Chris Willis
455th Air Expeditionary Wing
Public Affairs

2/13/2013 - CAMP MARMAL, MAZAR-E-SHARIF, Afghanistan -- Most Airmen don't think of communications as the guys who get dirty using shovels and digging ditches.

However, members of the 272nd Engineering and Installation Squadron based at Camp Marmal are digging the first trenches before laying down the fiber optic backbone for nearby Camp John Pratt. The 272nd E&I team are tasked with constructing the communications infrastructure that will be used by thousands of servicemembers and military contractors at military camps near the city of Mazar-e-Sharif.

Currently, there is not a perma-

nent fiber optic setup for Camp John Pratt, a new development located near Camp Marmal. The \$1.7 million engineering project to build the camp has the E&I team building a sustainable structure for running the cable networks.

Installation of fiber optic communications line provides for both secure and non-secure telephones as well as the bandwidth required for web-based logistics systems. The fiber optic network will also allow for the recovery and distribution of line-of-site tactical radio equipment.

"Every tactical communication asset installed in theater helps our troops on ground," said Maj. Ari Jimenez, 272nd Engineering and Installation Squadron officer in charge. "We are helping to keep more soldiers out of harm's way

through reliable communications."

Jimenez also serves as the Regional Command-North project manager and lead engineer for 22 projects across northern Afghanistan.

While typical communications Airmen are tasked to fix or update fiber cable problems, the E&I Airmen set the groundwork first.

"We aren't doing the more traditional 'comm' roles like back in the States," said Staff Sgt. Jonathan Baker, 272nd EIS craftsman. "Our job is to get dirty and dig those trenches for the cable infrastructure."

Day in and day out, the E&I team are shoveling and moving dirt to provide the camp's servicemembers the voice lines for strategic communications or the bandwidth to keep in touch with family members back home.

Senior Airman Shawna Fowler, 272nd Engineering and Installation Squadron journeyman, knows the importance of what her team is doing for the future of the Camp.

"It will be pretty cool to come back years from now and know that I helped build this camp's communications," said Fowler, a Houston, Texas, native. "We were the first ones to do it."

IN THIS ISSUE

COMMANDER'S CORNER	2
DEPLOYED AIRMEN	3
CHIEF'S CORNER	4
FIRST SHIRTS NEEDED	5
FLIGHT SERVICE CENTER	6
DFAC MENU	7
SEXUAL ASSAULT IN DOD	8
SAFETY SHORTS	8
FAMILY READINESS	9

CHIEF'S CORNER



Chief Master Sgt. Marlon Nation
147th Command Chief

One of the benefits of briefing the newcomer's every UTA is that I get to see the faces of new Airmen filled with promise and the excitement of starting a new chapter in life. Their idealism is real and contagious. There are also times during the same UTA, when I encounter those at the end of their careers and retiring. Most retirees as they close this chapter of their lives have a sense of satisfaction with few regrets; if any, it's a sour relationship with a co-worker or supervisor that they couldn't repair. There are never any complaints about the mission, core values, or the work being too hard.

I'm not overlooking the fact that some days are a grind, but idealism and our desire to live the core values can help us make the difference in our mundane days. Sometimes we have to "will" our way through the challenges with nothing more than the core values as our motivation. The only other option is to stay a victim of circumstances.

I'm sure that most don't wake up with the intent of being average. If so, you would not be part of the one per-

cent that has sworn to fight for what this country believes in. The problem with being average is that you are the best of the worst and the worst of the best, living a life with no risks, no personal challenges, not giving your all in any endeavor and staying safe. It's kind of like staying in the "shallow end of the pool." With this attitude it's easy to slip into a humdrum career and think that things will never change. With this mindset we would still be scratching around in caves, looking for a way to cook our food.

Your career is yours. But more importantly, you own your perspective, you own your attitude and you own your effort. You may not be able to choose what happens to you but you can choose your reaction. This choice is yours and you are responsible for it. Our leadership has implemented and demonstrated a philosophy that seeks to encourage our best in achieving personal goals and the goals of the wing. As a reminder, here is our Wing Commander's philosophy:

Strive to do your best and demonstrate excellence everyday

Do the right thing

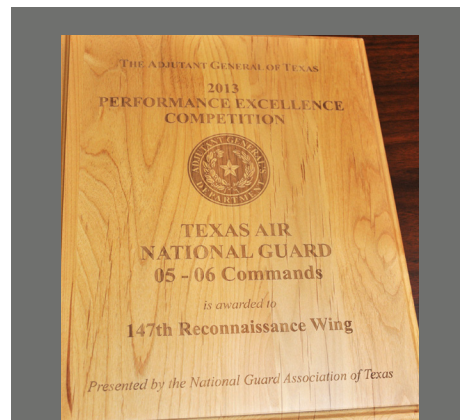
Treat others the way you would like to be treated

My point, is that the organizational culture and Colonel Daniel's philosophy has not changed. It is designed to appreciate all of your contributions, respect you as individuals and challenge you. We want to hold you accountable for your part in moving the 147th Reconnaissance Wing forward -- individually and as a team. No individual or organization stands alone, we all contribute to the whole and our responsibilities as leaders and follow-

ers is to face our objectives and make it work.

We are responsible for some very lethal activity. We are either directly engaged or providing support. It's an obligation where teamwork, cooperation, competence and standards cannot be substituted. Every PME course, OJT task, award, feedback session, counseling, evaluation, etc. is designed with this in mind.

The idealism of the Newcomer's Briefing is energizing and has a lesson for us all, and that lesson is to believe in and work toward possibilities. The lesson from those retiring is that we are undertaking a worthy endeavor. I just want to remind you of the importance of both, and emphasize that we all have an investment (personal and corporate) in the years between chapters.



The Adjutant General of Texas has named the 147th Reconnaissance Wing the Command Winner (O5/O6 - TX Air National Guard) for the 2012 Texas Adjutant General's Performance Excellence Competition (TEGPEC).

The competition recognizes commands at the O3/O4 level and O5/O6 level from each component (TX Army National Guard, TX Air National Guard and TX State Guard). Submissions were evaluated by the component commands to honor units that are executing action plans that best support the Texas Military Forces Strategy.



ANSWER THE CALL: FIRST SHIRTS NEEDED

By Master Sgt. Malvin Baerga-Rivera
147th Mission Support Group First Sergeant

Have you ever considered becoming a first sergeant for the 147th Reconnaissance Wing? A first sergeant is a leader, mentor, advisor, enforcer and counselor - these are just a few words that describe a first sergeant.

Think you're ready to join the ranks of elite senior non-commissioned officers in a special duty career field?

What does a first sergeant do?

According to Air Force Instruction 36-3113, "The first sergeant is an expeditionary leader serving in a time-honored special duty position, rich in custom and tradition." Yet that does not even begin to describe what it means to be a first sergeant.

First sergeants are a critical link between commanders and the enlisted members of their unit. It is the first sergeant's job to ensure commanders understand and address the issues their Airmen are experiencing and ensure their Airmen understand the commander's policies, goals and vision. First sergeants must be available throughout the days and nights to respond to the needs of their people. From award luncheons and promotion ceremonies to domestic disputes and family tragedies, the first sergeant must mix discipline, compassion and mentorship, often times switching gears between hard-nosed rule-monger to empathetic parental figure at a moment's notice. First sergeants are expected to be subject matter experts in limitless subjects including drill and ceremonies, pay and travel allowances, financial and marital counseling, dress and appearance, career progression, on-and-off-duty education, performance reports and decorations, investigations and the law and personnel programs to name a few.

What are the qualifications?

First sergeants must be a jack-of-all-trades, able to leap from issuing an Article 15 to a squadron barbecue to grief counseling in a single bound. They must be patient enough to listen to stories about any particular weekend yet impatient enough to aggressively work the issues out as needed. They must be independent enough to work autonomously yet dependent enough to take direction from the commander and superintendent.

They must be kind enough to work in the best interest of their people yet strict enough to straighten them out when they stray. They must be introspective enough to know their commander's and their own weaknesses yet confident enough to exploit the strengths of each. They must be out of their office enough to know what is going on in the lives of their people yet in their office enough to complete paperwork and answer emails.

They must be extroverted enough to speak in front of large crowds yet introverted enough to keep in confidence situations that require discretion. They must be operational enough to know how their decisions affect the unit's mission yet managerial enough to stay out of making operational decisions. They must balance their professional and personal life with being "on duty" 24 hours a day. They must be a person who knows how to take care of people.

To qualify for first sergeant duty, a request for Special Duty Assignment application endorsed by the unit commander, must be submitted. Additionally, the package must contain a fitness score greater than 80, copies of your Enlisted Performance Feedback, a physical profile for special duty and a Records Review Rip.

Furthermore, applicants must have a minimum General AQE of 62 or Administrative AQE of 41 and complete Senior NCO Academy by correspondence (Course 14) or in residence 36 months after graduating from the first sergeant's school.

An interview process with selection board and your command chief will be the final piece of the application process before submission for further approval to Major Command and the Career Field Managers at the Air Force Personnel Center.

Still not sure if you have what it takes?

Talk to your first sergeant about filling in while he or she takes leave or deploys. Step up and find out if you have what it takes to join the ranks of elite senior non-commissioned officers in a special duty career field of hand-picked, high-speed professionals. The first time an Airman says, "Thanks for being there for me, Shirt," you'll be hooked.

LRS' Flight Service Center *tackles your issues*

By Senior Master Sgt. Andrea Lymas
LRS Materiel Superintendent

The Logistics Readiness Squadron's Maintenance Support Section consists of the Flight Service Center which replaces the Maintenance Support Liaison.

Personnel of the Flight Service Center are generally responsible for several key themes:

1. Identify and Resolve issues

The center's staff monitor the overall maintenance and materiel interface; identify and resolve customer support concerns; research and maintain base records maintenance; provide bench stock and supply point oversight; and solicit customer feedback to continually improve customer and LRS processes.

2. Troubleshoot and Train

The staff troubleshoot and resolve all materiel management concerns by determining the best available assets requested by the customer and showing them the best way to acquire said assets as well as managing issues related to IMDS and supply-generated transactions.

The staff also coordinate base-level customer training as it pertains to General Supply Indoctrination, Bench Stock/Repair Cycle, and Equipment Management/Registered Equipment Management training.

3. Guidance and Maintenance

The center's staff conducts quarterly visits to maintenance work centers, providing guidance for maintaining bench, operating and shop stocks; assisting users in resolving any materiel management related problems and identifying supply related training needs; briefing work center supervisors on results, follow-ups on corrective actions and provide a copy of the

report to that unit commander.

4. Review

The center's staff Identify processes that negatively impact our customer service through the Periodic Review process. The staff also schedule meetings, work through difficulties, identify problematic disconnects and identify creative solutions to resolve outstanding issues. This center acts as the focal point for all supply related issues.

5. Contract and Purchases

Assists Contracting in directing customers on proper use of the Government Purchase Card and purchasing general supplies through supply IAW the Federal Acquisition Regulation. With recent changes to the GPC program, some purchases will be directed to a Contracting/Supply must-use list. Requested items outside the supplied list must have supporting justification and Contracting approval to be an authorized purchase (IAW FAR Part 8, sub para 8.001).

NOTE: Supply does not authorize GPC purchases; we either approve or disapprove the use of the request based on the FAR and other supporting guidelines and factors. For more information about these services, call Staff Sgt. Todaro at 929-2800.

For more information regarding GCP requirements, call Senior Master Sgt. Diane Bailey at 929-2305.

GUARD FACTS

Did you know?

Tom Selleck, Norman Mailer and Charles Lindbergh are among the many famous people to serve in the National Guard.

Cyper Threat Alert

Be on the lookout for fraudulent emails appearing to come from UPS, FedEx, the Post Office and other business containing links to viruses. Often contains a link to a trojan inside a zip file. If you are expecting a label or a receipt, but when you click on the link a zip file downloads, do not open the file; instead just hit cancel. If you receive this type of email, do not open it!

Even though it looks like a document, the file inside the zip is actually a trojan. Double-clicking it will display the document you think you received, but it will also install a hidden backdoor onto your computer that you will not see. It could give away all of your documents, emails, and Air Force files you have access to on NIPRNet, compromising critical USAF information. In many cases, the attack will slow down or disable your computer system and it may prevent you from accessing any of your files.

If you think you may have opened one of these emails, report it to your Client Support Technician (CST), Information Assurance Officer (IAO/ISSO), or Unit Security Manager immediately and stop using the computer you were on.

These attacks have been distributed widely over the past few months. They may show up in personal or official email inboxes. And, Air Force members are not the only targets.

Family Day Postponed

The Air National Guard is experiencing unprecedented budget constraints and the possibility of furloughing employees. With the budget uncertainty, the leadership of the wing has decided to postpone the Family Day scheduled for May 4, 2013, until the fall. The budget will be re-evaluated again in the fall to decide the feasibility of accommodating the Family Day events. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

147TH RECONNAISSANCE WING DINING FACILITY

Thursday
4 April 2013

Country Fried Steak
Stuffed Fish
Oven Brown Potatoes
Steamed Rice
Corn on the Cob
Green Beans
Dinner Rolls
Assorted Salad & Desserts
Assorted Drinks

Friday
5 April 2013

Baked Chicken
Swedish Meatballs
Mashed Potatoes
Red Beans & Rice
Mixed Vegetables
Carrots
Dinner Rolls
Assorted Salad & Desserts
Assorted Drinks

Shortline

Cheeseburger/Hamburger
Hot Wings
Pizza
French Fries

Meal Price: \$4.55

Saturday
6 April 2013

Roast Turkey
Salisbury Steak
Rice Pilaf
Au Gratin Potatoes
Broccoli
Cauliflower
Dinner Rolls
Assorted Salad & Desserts
Assorted Drinks

Sunday
7 April 2013

Chicken Cordon Bleu
Lasagna
Wild Rice
Green Peas
Broccoli Medany
Dinner Rolls
Assorted Salad & Desserts
Assorted Drinks

Shortline

Cheeseburger/Hamburger
Hot Wings
Chicken Strips
French Fries

Meal Price: \$4.55

Commanders Hotline
Ideas | Comments | Suggestions

929-2000



Judge Advocate
147 Reconnaissance Wing



UTA Weekends – 0800 - 1600

281-929-2199

147RW.JA@ang.af.mil

AMERICAN AIRMEN | SPIRITUAL WINGMEN



147 RECONNAISSANCE WING
CHAPLAIN CORPS



DUTY HOURS: 281-929-2636

NON-DUTY HOURS: 281-929-2716

147RW.CHAPLAIN@ANG.AF.MIL

Alcoholism is Treatable!

Need Help?

Call 1-800-410-2560

Sexual Assault S.A.F.E. Helpline

1-877-995-5247

147TH RECONNAISSANCE WING
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY OFFICE
BLDG 1057, ROOM 236

MAJ GRETA COSTA
929-2610

MSGT ANITA BLUE
929-2210



TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE ON ISSUES INVOLVING
DISCRIMINATION AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT



Ace in the Hole
Retirees Association

President: James (Jim) Buchta

Vice President: James Hamm

Sect./Treas: Mildred Koehn

www.aceintheholeretirees.com

147th.retirees@gmail.com

SEXUAL ASSAULT: NO PLACE IN DOD

By Terri Moon Cronk

American Forces Press Service

4/2/2013 - WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Sexual assault has no place in the Defense Department, a senior Pentagon official said April 2 here, calling on the workforce to be part of the solution.

In a keynote address kicking off Aberdeen Proving Ground's observance of National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month, acting Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Jessica L. Wright said sexual assault is a national issue that also affects the Defense Department's military and civilian workforce.

The theme for this year's observance -- underscored in a message that Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel sent to the Department's workforce today is, "We own it ... we'll solve it ... together."

"Although we address sexual assault in the month of April, this is an issue that needs to be addressed every day of our lives," Wright told an audience of service members and civilian employees. The Defense Department is a microcosm of America, she added, where employees bring their values and how they were raised to the workforce.

"I often say if we're in Afghanistan and

we (see) something unsafe, (or) not akin to the values we have grown up with, we would tell that person to stop what they're doing, because they're going to affect our well-being and their well-being," she said. "Yet when we are here in the United States, and we do something that's not akin to ... values in a social network, sometimes we have a hard time crossing that boundary and saying, 'This affects the life of a service member or a civilian we work with, and it's inappropriate.'"

The Defense Department doesn't condone sexual assault, Wright said. "We don't tell jokes of a sexual nature, we don't condone unwanted sexual behaviors, and we clearly don't condone sexual assault."

Just as everyone knows people who drink a lot of coffee, exercise a great deal or are "Facebook junkies," Wright said, everyone also knows someone who doesn't live by the Defense Department's values and ethos.

"I ask that if you know that person, tell (him or her) to stop it, and make sure you report bad behavior should you see it," she said. "That's the only way we're

going to stop it."

Wright said she joined the military in 1975 as a member of the Women's Army Corps, at a time when having a drink at the post club was condoned. "But in our military now, ... we don't condone drinking (or) drinking and driving. We don't have those social things like we used to, because it's just not who we are," she said.

The military culture has changed radically with regard to drug and alcohol problems and racial tensions it had in the past, Wright said, adding that she doesn't see sexual assault any differently.

"I ask each and every one of you to take back a message with you today that says, 'Every single day, we don't condone (sexual assault),'"

she said. Sexual assault awareness and prevention must be part of all levels in the organization, she added, whether employees work with a small group in an office or in a field situation.

"We have a sexual assault problem," Wright said. "We need to jump on top of it and stop it. And it is incumbent upon all of you to do it."

HOUSTON MILITARY AFFAIRS

PRESENTS THE

ARMED FORCES DAY MILITARY BALL

SATURDAY, 18 MAY 2013

1800 SOCIAL WITH DINNER AT 1900

THIS GALA EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE

RELIANT CENTER IN HOUSTON, TX

HONORING OUR TROOPS DEEP IN THE
HEART OF TEXAS

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR UNIT POC FOR MORE INFORMATION

SAFETY SHORTS

Mowing Safety

Read the Operator's Manual Thoroughly

Know How to Stop the Machine Quickly

Leave all Safety Features Intact

Clear the Mowing Area

Avoid Blade Contact

Never Allow Children to Operate a Lawn
Mower

Wear Appropriate Clothing

Refuel your Mower Carefully

Give Your Mowing Operation Your Full
Attention and Full Use of Your Faculties

REMEMBER:

A moment of carelessness could lead to a
lifetime of regret.



Ms. Monalisa Norton
Family Readiness Program Manager

Airman & Family READINESS PROGRAM

147TH RECONNAISSANCE WING - ELLINGTON FIELD JRB - HOUSTON, TEXAS



The 147th Reconnaissance Wing Airman and Family Readiness Program Office provides a direct link between the commander and families. Family members can get information and help for a variety of issues, for more information contact the Family Readiness Program Manager.

Important Numbers and Services

Provided by: Monalisa Norton, Airman & Family Readiness Program Manager

American Red Cross
Armed Forces Emergency Number
877-272-7337
www.redcross.org

Tricare Service Center
800-444-5445

Military One-Source
800-342-9647
www.militaryonesource.com

Veteran Affairs
www.va.gov

Air Force Crossroads
www.afcrossroads.com

NGB Family Program Online Community
www.jointservicessupport.org

Tricare Regional Office South
www.tricare.mil/TROSouth

Texas National Guard Family Support Foundation
www.txngfoundation.org

Military Spouse Center
www.military.com/spouse

United Concordia
800-866-8499
www.ucci.com

Employer Support of Guard and Reserves (ESGR)
800-336-4590
www.esgr.mil

Humana-Military
www.humana-military.com

National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies
www.naccrra.org

Hope for Heroes
www.samaritan-counseling.org

Hero Bracelets
www.herobracelets.org

Kid's Area

Kids Health (Toddler to Teens)
www.kidshealth.org

Kids.gov
www.kids.gov

Kid's Space
www.kids-space.org

FEMA for Kids
www.fema.gov/kids

White House Kids Site
www.whitehouse.gov/kids

Texas Senate Kids
www.senate.state.tx.us/kids

Energy Kids Page
www.eia.doe.gov/kids

Texas Parks & Wildlife
www.tpwd.state.tx.us